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No. 660.

LETTER from a WHIG in Town, to a WHIG in the Country, concerning the Present State of POLITICAL WRITING.

I R,



IN the last Letter you favour'd me with, you asked my Opinion of the Present State of Political Writing, which I will freely and impartially give you: Impartially, I say; for I think I have no Bias upon me from Affection or Aversion, I am sure I have none from Interest. Expect, therefore,

and the Truth, as far as I am capable of representing it.

THE Writers against the Court having, in a Course of several Years, exhausted every Political Trick; employ themselves now with dully repeating what they have better said before; or, with opening their Magazine of Scandal, and throwing out invidious Invektives against every Person, not excepting the highest, in Power: Libelling every Action of Government, and traducing the Government itself: Notwithstanding which, they take it very ill, to be counted Patriots; and call laughing at their Sentences to Patriotism, laughing at Patriotism itself: Thus laughing at Superstition, hath been, by the weak and worst of Men, called laughing at Religion. Can you, my Friend! as a Whig, read, without just Indignation and Resentment, the late Publick Papers, plainly insinuating to the People, 'That the true Heir of the Crown is kept from his Birthright by Law: That Justice can't be done him, because He who holds the Kingdom, holds the Law: That the Law is perfect wrong: And, That we are under a Parliamentary Tyranny, and Legal Slavery: That we rather lost than got by the Revolution: That our Liberties are more precarious since than before: That the Commonwealth is sick of their own Choice: That their over-greedy Love hath forfeited them: That the Army is discontented, and the Counties ready to revolt.' I say, can you read this, in a Paper wrote upon pretended Whig Principles, and by those who give out that they are the only true Whigs, and not think them run mad with so long and successful an Opposition? Will not this Conduct abuse all the sensible Whigs in the Kingdom, to write against a Set of Men, who, under the sacred Pretence of Patriotism, and more perfect Whiggism, every Week endeavouring to alienate the Affections of the People from the Royal Family, and teaching them to despise the Revolution? These are Root and Branch Men, and strike at the Foundation of all our National Happiness. Had they wrote only against the Ministry, we could have borne it; (for Ministers in England seem to be set up as Marks to shoot at) tho' I could never yet hear a Reason, why this Clamour and Noise is made against the Ministry, much less, why a Minister of State (see Commons Sense of July 30.) should be compared to Turpin; and all Men of Honour called upon to unite in his Destruction, or knock him o'the Head as a wild Beast; while the Wretch who wrote the infamous Paper, Bully with his Pen, and Coward in his Heart, lies meanly by, and dares not purchase to himself the Immortal Glory of being triumphantly hang'd for a virtuous Assassin, and so greatly fall a Sacrifice to his Country.

THIS is the New-Whig-Way of writing against the Ministry, Knock them down! Kill them! Merit heaven thereby! as our Port has it upon another Occasion. I should not wonder that the Jacobites, or Half-Jacobites, Half-Hannoverians; Half-Papists and Half-Protestants, the Tories, should thoroughly hate the Ministry; But why should the Whigs hate them? What have they done against the Interest of Liberty? or against the true Interest of the Kingdom? There can be no National Interest against them, unless it can be shewn, that the Nation would get by changing hands, and placing the Power in another Set of Men. Do you, Sir, try your Abilities on this Head: You have a good Judgment, and fruitful Invention; shew the World what Advantages we shall obtain in Relation to our Foreign or Domestic Affairs; and then Point out the Men who are more able and willing

to obtain those Advantages for us. Unless this is done, all the Cry against the Ministry will be looked upon, by Judicious Men, not as National but Personal; and to flow immediately from the corrupt Fountains of disappointed Ambition, and Lust of Power. Don't you believe, That if a few Men, whom you could name for me, had been kept in Power, the Craftsmen would never have been born? That all the mighty Ills, so loudly complained of, and so partially exaggerated, would never had a Being? That our Harmless Armies, and Pacific Fleets, would have been absolutely necessary, for certain wise Purposes and salutary Ends? And, That there would not have been One Place in the Disposal of the Crown, but what was requisite to support the Constitutional Independency and Dignity of it? Would not Corruption itself have been dead? For, Who can be corrupted to serve a good Cause? If Gentlemen won't do their Duty, or act what they count right, without being paid for it; Who can help it? We can't make Men: Therefore, when we want 'em, we must take 'em as they are made to our Hands, or as they have made themselves. Would not these, my Friend, have been good Arguments, had certain Persons been in Power, or could have been content with a due Share of it? But, because they are out of Humour, the whole Kingdom must be out of Order; because they cannot possess all the Power they wish, they will do the Nation all the Mischief they are able; and because they cannot displace One Man, they would dethrone and reverse the Revolution: Crying out, with our Mad Poet in the Play,

Let Wrath divine be hurl'd,
That may to Atoms shake the solid World.

Is not this true? Doth not every thing I have said appear just, from the constant Tenor of the Antiministerial Writings? What have we, then, (the People) to do with these Men, or their private Animosities? If one of them is, by his own wrong Conduct, displaced, the Nation is undone: Restore him to Power, the Nation is safe: Don't the People see this Parce yet? When will their Eyes be opened? When will they be able to discern between real national Grievances, and the imaginary Grievances of particular Men? When will they be so wise as to fight their own Battles only, and be no farther concerned for any Men, in Power or out of Power, than those Men are concerned for the Good of their Country? Let them try the Merits of the Ministry and their Adversaries by this Rule; let them coolly review the Conduct on both Sides for many Years past; the Temper and Moderation of the one, the Madness and Rage of the other: Good Laws enacted, and those Laws made the sole Standard of Government; and yet, the People taught to believe, that they are under Tyranny and Slavery. The unwearied Pains taken by the Ministry to preserve the Nation in Peace at home and abroad; and the Abuses they have met with for those virtuous Labours. Let them, I say, compare the Actions on both Sides impartially; and judge of them by their Tendency to promote the Good of their Country, and I know no Men in Power who need be under any Apprehensions from the Examination. But if, Mob-like, Persons will suffer themselves to be borne down with a ridiculous Cry of Armies and Taxes, when there is no Army but what is absolutely necessary for the Defense of the Kingdom; nor any Taxes but what are appropriated to publick Services as evident as the Sun: If they will call the Laws, which guard them against Arbitrary Power, Tyranny; and an Obligation to obey those Laws, Slavery: Who can stop the Torrent of this political Madness? But, let those look to it, and consider how they will answer it to God and their Consciences, who put these iniquitous Distinctions into the People's Heads, all calculated to throw the Nation into Convulsions, to make us weary of the Revolution, and the Hanover Family; and so prepare us for any other Government, or any other Family. That this was the Design of the Author of the Dissertation on Parties, that Traitor to his Country, who invented these and other Distinctions, such as, Friends to the Government, Enemies to the Constitution, is beyond all Doubt with Men of Sense; but, whether all who have used them after him, intended to carry Things

so far, I will not affirm: However, they have done infinite Mischief, as they have cooled the Zeal of many Whigs; and furnish'd the Jacobites with Arguments (as they imagine) against the Revolution, which they were unacquainted with before.

If the Whigs don't see the Truth of what I have now laid before them, they are blinded to their Destruction, and infatuated to be Undone. Can they forbear seeing, that Popery increases all over the Kingdom; that the generous Warmth and Affection which the Whigs of all Denominations were inspired with for the Protestant Religion and Revolution Government, is very much abated; that the Jacobites lift up their Heads and think their Redemption draws nigh; that Disaffection is spread, like a Leprosy, amongst us, and that there is no Remedy against this, but the hearty Union of the Whigs to strengthen the Hands of the Government against all its Enemies at Home and Abroad.

THIS Union would render us as formidable Abroad, as when the Whigs were united about the Middle of Queen Anne's Reign; for, tho' there's this Difference between those Times and the present, that they then felt our Blows; yet, were the Friends of the Government firmly united, they would dread the feeling of the same Blows again, and so never attempt to disturb our Peace, or invade our Rights. The Honour of the Government abroad, therefore, depends not so much upon the manner of our Negotiating, as upon the united Strength of its Friends at home: And I am fully convinced, that whatever Dishonour we have suffered, it is originally to be laid at their Doors who broke this happy Union, and sacrificed the Welfare and Glory of their Country to personal Spight, Ambition, and Love of Power; for, Foreigners know, as well as we, who are the real Friends of the Revolution and the present Settlement of the Crown; and stand ready to take all the Advantages which our fatal Divisions play into their Hands. With what Contempt must they look down upon us, to see Whig Writers disgrace the Revolution, defame the Government, ridicule the Royal Family, and call upon the People to Murder and Assassinations of the King's Ministers; and this too, at a Time, when the two greatest Catholick Powers in Europe, Powers able to swallow up all the rest, are united; and when the Enemies of the Government at home are in the highest Expectation of something turning up in their Favour from this unnatural Junction, and from the sullen and reserved State of Things abroad. But, I say no more at present: I leave you, my Friend, and all other Whigs to imagine the rest, and make such an Use of it as Reason and Virtue command.

I am, with very great Affection,
Your obliged Friend and Servant.

A Letter has been communicated from the Prince de Craon to all the Merchants at Leghorn, to assure them that they shall not only be maintained in their Rights and Liberties; but also, that he shall be glad to receive any Proposals they shall think proper to lay before him for the Improvement of Trade. Mean time 'tis said this Prince and the General de Wachtendonk often visit the Electress Dowager Palatine, and are very urgent with her to undertake the Regency till the Duke of Lorain's Arrival.

Extract of a Letter from Petersburg, dated July 5. O. S.

The Confessions made by the Incendiaries that are already in Prison, have determin'd the Court to have Turnpikes set up at the Corners of all the Streets, with Orders to search all the common Passengers, and to stop such as they find with combustible Materials upon them: And by a strict Inspection that has been made every Day in all the Quarters of the Town since the late Fire, it has been discovered that the Incendiaries have laid Fire to two or three more Places, but 'twas perceived before it could get to a Head. Some Combustibles have also been found dropp'd near the Arsenal and the Ordnance Office, as also near the Theatre which is erected before the Winter Palace, on purpose for Illuminations and Fireworks. The Emperor, out of Compassion to the poor Inhabitants who have been burnt out of their Houses, has order'd the Officers of the Admiralty to let



have all the Timber they can spare at Prime Cost: And the same Order has been given to the Navy Office as to Stones, Lime, and other Materials: At the same time, as for the Courtiers whose Houses have been burnt, the Empress has granted them considerable Gratuities, to enable them to rebuild. To some she has order'd 5000 Rubles, to others 3000 and 2000, and to some Persons her Imperial Majesty has given no less than 8000. She has been twice to see what Ravages the Fire has committed, and the melancholly Scene seems to have touch'd her to the Heart.

A Letter of a fresher Date says, there has been another Fire there, by which above 500 Houses were burnt; and that several People have been thereupon apprehended.

Letters of the 16th ult. from Vienna confirm, that the Imperial Generals have laid the Provinces of Bosnia, Wallachia, and Moldavia under Contribution, and that Wallachia is to pay 30,000 Ducats, Moldavia 20,000, and Bosnia 50,000. A Detachment of the Prince of Saxe Hilburghausen's Troops commanded by General Muffling, met a considerable Body of Turks whom they cut in Pieces or dispers'd after some Resistance, in which the Germans had a Captain and 40 Soldiers kill'd, besides several wounded, in which Number was the said General. And the Governor of Banialucka, who commanded the Turks, was kill'd upon the Spot.

We are assured that the Troops under the Count de Seckendorf have invested Nissa, ever since the 20th ult. and that the Generals publish'd a Declaration at their Entrance upon the Turkish Frontiers, 'That tho' the Emperor was oblig'd to make War against the Porte, he would grant his Protection to all those Inhabitants who were willing to embrace it, and that therefore they might stay at home and follow their ordinary Employments without Fear of Molestation.' At the same time the German Soldiers are forbid to commit any Devastation or Plunder in such Places as they shall reduce, on Pain of being punished with all the Severity of the Martial Law.

There's Advice that the Prince of Saxe Hilburghausen having reduced Bagnaluck in Bosnia, was march'd towards Gaiza and Vihacz, and that the Turks had not yet form'd their Army on that Side, but were for that Purpose gathering together all their Troops dispersed in the several Provinces.

A Letter of July 23. O. S. from Berlin says, that the Russian Ambassador received an Express that very Morning, confirming the bad News above-mention'd, of another Fire that has happen'd at Petersburg, and that the Number of Houses thereby consumed, is not less than 800.

HOME PORTS.

Falmouth, Aug. 1. This Day arrived the Eagle Packet, Masterman, from the Groyne. Remains no Packet. Wind N. W.

Bristol, Aug. 3. Yesterday arrived the Prince of Orange, Bird, and the Clifton, Allen, from St. Christopher's. This Morning the Dragon, Burgess, in 7 Weeks odd Days from Jamaica; the St. George of London, Hammond, from Santa Cruz; the Annamabo, Elwell, in 25 Days from New England, and the York, Ludlow, from Virginia in 5 Weeks.

Pool, Aug. 3. Just now sailed from hence the Atkins of this Port, Hart, for Fago in Newfoundland.

Southampton, Aug. 3. Since my last arrived the Two Friends, Mourant; the Jane, Pitton, of and from Guernsey; the Two Marys, Gordon, of Southampton, from Guernsey. Sailed the Mary, Stafford, of London from the Canaries for Ham-
burgh.

Portsmouth, Aug. 4. Yesterday sailed the Molly Brig Vere, with Wheat for Lisbon.

Deal, Aug. 4. Wind W. N. W. No Ship in the Downs. We had Yesterday very blowing, dirty Weather, the Wind all Day at East.

Gravesend, August 4. Yesterday passed by the Haelingfield, Birch; the Normanton, Rigby, from East India; the Whitaker, Whiting; the Mary, Nailor; the Dorsetshire, Loney; and the Gooche, Whitesides, from Virginia; the White Pidgeon, Courier, from Bremen; the Exmouth, Chapple, from Gallipoly; the Merry Jacks, Grainger, from Narva; the London, Howes, from St. Christopher's; the Sufanna, Harnett, from Petersburg. Several Ships are pass'd by unknown, it blowing had at N. E. This Day pass'd by the Duke of Richmond, Merrington, from Diep; the Richmond, Gough, from China; the Josiah, Burchett, from Petersburg; the Lady Elizabeth, Baarns; and the Lady Elizabeth, Brede-mus, from Amsterdam; the Monmouth, Cock, and the Rousby, Joinson, from Maryland.

The Dolphin, Levett, from Jamaica, is arrived at Ilford Comb

L O N D O N.

Extract of a Letter from a Merchant at Nevis, dated June 24.

'I wrote you by the Prince William, Capt. Kin-
laugh, viz. St. Christopher's, 10 March; but as
he was unfortunately taken by a Spanish Man
of War about 150 Leagues to the Eastward
of Bermudas, I suppose the Letters were all de-
stroyed; the only Pretence they had for keeping
the Ship, and by which they expect to make her
a legal Prize, was her having some Braziletto on
board, which they suppose must be the Growth of
some of the Spanish Dominions; whereas this
came directly from the Island of Providence, to
St. Kitts, and is the Growth of that very Island.
They sent the Ship away, with the Captain and
some of the Men, with 20 of their own Men, di-
rectly to the Havannah, to which Place the Man
of War was bound, after he had cruized on the
Spanish Coast. They likewise took, at a small
Island called Mona, a large Dutch Ship at Anchor,
taking in Water, in which Ship was the Governor
of Esfata, and Mr. Phillips, Governor of St. Mar-
tyn's. The Dutch Ship was bound to Esfata, but
fell to Leeward of all the Islands, and made Porto
Rico first; that Ship they likewise sent to Hava-
nah, but the two Governors, with about 30 Men,
they put on Shore at Hispaniola, about 60 Miles
from St. Domingo, whither they were obliged to
travel; from thence the Governor sent a Sloop up
with all the Prisoners, and landed them at Esfata:
They report that the Governour of St. Domingo
was extremely kind to them, but they were very
ill treated on board the Man of War. I hear that
they also took a Ship belonging to Bristol, bound
to Jamaica, some Time before they took Kinlaugh,
but could not learn either the Ship or Master's
Name.'

Capt. Japhet Bird from St. Christopher's, who ar-
rived at Bristol the 24th Instant, says, that on the 16th
of July, in the Latitude of 40 Degrees North, about
200 Leagues to the Westward of the Western or
Azores Islands, he fell in with 13 Sail of large Ships,
who hoisting Spanish Colours, he made all the Sail
he could to get from. It is believed they were the
Flota bound from La Vera Cruz to Cadiz.

Letters from Exeter, of the 2d Instant say, that
Capt. Dennis was arrived at Topsham, in 9 Days
from Cadiz; and that soon after his coming out of
that Bay, he heard great Firing of Guns, which he
concluded to be occasioned by the Arrival of the
Flota.

A few Days since two Fellows, one dress'd like a
Footman, the other as a Wine-Cooper, came to the
Shop of Mr. Stacey, Apothecary, in Fetter-lane, and
only the Journeyman in the Shop, asked for the
Master, who not being in the Way, one of them
desired the Journeyman to go with him backwards,
pretending he had the Venereal Disease, and held
him in Discourse, whilst the other took the Oppor-
tunity of picking the Apprentice's Pocket, whose
Clothes lay on the Counter, of a Case of Instruments,
and other Things of Value. This is the third Apo-
thecary's that hath been robbed in this Manner, as
'tis thought, by the same Fellows.

On Thursday last Robert Jessup, and Charles Par-
rot, were committed to Newgate, by Col. De Veil,
for a Burglary and Felony, in the House of Mr. Jo-
seph Cock, Shoemaker, in Carnaby-street; most of
the Goods were found upon them: They likewise
committed another Burglary at an Alehouse in Ber-
wick-street. Francis Watson, one of their Accom-
plices, is made an Evidence against the other two,
who are old Offenders.

Last Monday the Rev. Mr. Warwick, M. A. was
married at Hampton-Town, to Miss Jane Hopkins,
with a Fortune of 8000 l.

Last Wednesday in the Afternoon, when the
Wind was so high, a Boat was cast away between
Woolwich and Purfleet, and 4 or 5 Men were
drown'd.

Last Tuesday Morning died, at her House at Derby,
in the 64th Year of her Age, Dame Mary Compton,
Relict of the late Sir John Compton, Knight.

This Morning their Majesties, his Royal High-
ness the Prince of Wales, the Duke, and Princess,
will take the Diversion of Stag-Hunting in Rich-
mond New Park (if the Weather permits.)

To-Morrow the Court goes into Second Mourning,
for the Death of the Great Duke of Tuscany.

On Tuesday last several Persons were robbed,
returning from Hampstead Fair, between the Half-
way-House and Tottenham-Court.

On Thursday last Three Horses started for His Ma-
jesty's Plate of 100 Guineas, at Lewes in Sussex, which
was won by the Duke of Ancafter's Grey Horse.

And several Persons returning Home were rob-
bed near the said Course, by two Highwaymen, who
mounted, who rode off towards London.

Joseph Soanes, Esq; Lieutenant-Governor of
Greenwich Hospital, who was said to be speechless
is in a fair Way of Recovery.

Mr. Alderman Hankey was the only Person
knighted by his Majesty on Thursday last.

High Water this Day	Morning	Evening
at London Bridge.	5 54	6 11

Bank Stock 143 1-half, 3-4ths.	India 174 1/2
3-4ths. South Sea 100 3-4ths.	Old Annuitys
7-8ths. New ditto 109 3-8ths to 5 8ths.	
per Cent. 105 3 4ths to 106.	Emperor's Loan
1-half. Royal Assurance 108 1-half.	London
ranee 14 3-4ths.	African 14.
6 l. 14 s. to 15 s. Prem.	Old ditto 6 l. 13 s.
South Sea ditto 4 l. 12 s. Prem.	Bank Circulation
3 l. 10 s. Prem.	Salt Tallow 1 to 5 Prem.
Copper 2 l. 12 s. Welsh ditto, 15 s.	Three per Cent.
per Cent. Exchequer Orders 8 1-4th per Cent.	
Three per Cent. ditto 2 3-4ths per Cent.	Prem.
Million Bank 122 1-half.	Lottery Tickets 91 1/2

Jerusalem-Chamber, Westminster, August 3, 1737.
NOTICE is hereby given, that the Commission-
pointed by the Commissioners, for Building a Bridge
at Westminster, to examine Plans and Proposals for
ing the said Bridge, are to meet, by Adjournment,
Tuesday next the 9th Instant, at 10 in the Forenoon,
when all Persons concerned are desir'd to attend.
Committee likewise gives Notice, that no Plans will be
received after that Day.

Royal Hospital for Seamen at Greenwich
August 3, 1737.

THE Commissioners of His Majesty's Royal Hospital
for Seamen at Greenwich being empowered, by Letters
Patent, to hold and keep two Markets, on Wednesday
Saturday in every Week, for the Buying and Selling
all Sorts of Provisions, Goods, and Wares whatsoever
usually bought and sold in Markets, and to take and
receive all Customs, Tolls, and other Profits thereunto
longing, Do hereby give Notice, That a proper Place
a Piece of Ground belonging to the said Hospital
the Town of Greenwich, being set out, and Shambles
Stalls, Standings, and other Conveniences, provided
holding the said Markets, a Market will be held
on Saturday the 3d Day of September next, at the
Time of holding Markets; and afterwards, will be con-
tinued to be held and kept on every Wednesday and Sa-
turday following, pursuant to the Powers in and by the
said Letters Patent granted, for the Selling and Buying
all Sorts of Provisions, Goods, and Wares, as aforesaid,
and that all such Persons who shall think fit to take
Shambles, Stalls, or Standings in the said Market,
the exposing any Goods to Sale therein, may on the Pa-
tation hereof, apply to Mr. Joseph Crosswaite, at a
House over-against the Church in Greenwich, concerning
the same. And for the encouraging Traders, and other
Persons, to resort to, and use the said Markets, it is
hereby declared, That all Persons taking any Shambles
or other Places, and using the same, for the Selling of
Goods therein, shall hold the said Shambles and Places
Rent-free, and without paying any Thing for the same,
for one Year, from the 3d Day of September next. Pro-
vided, that they come to an Agreement with the Directors
of the said Hospital, at the End of Nine Months, to pay
such Weekly Rents for the same, as shall be agreed upon
to commence from the End of the Year.

This Day is Published,
(Price Six Pence, or Two Guineas per Hundred, to
who give them away)

THE Nature and Necessity of Our
Birth in Christ Jesus, in order to Salvation.
SERMON preach'd in the Church of St. Mary's Radcliffe
Bristol.

By **GEORGE WHITEFIELD**,
of Pembroke College, Oxford.

Published at the Request of several of the Hea-
Printed for C. RIVINGTON in St. Paul's Church-yard;
T. Cooper in Pater-noster-Row; and sold by Messieurs H. and
Sen. and Jun. in Gloucester; Mr. Wilson, in Bristol;
Mr. LANE in Bath.

This Day is Publish'd,
(With a beautiful Frontispiece)

The Second Edition, corrected and improved,
of **AN Essay on Mr. POPE'S ODYSSEY.**

Five Dialogues. By Mr. SPENCE, Fellow of New
College, and Professor of Poetry in the University of Oxford.
— Each finding, like a Friend,
Something to blame, and something to commend.

Printed for S. Wilmot in Oxford, and sold by W. Long
in St. Paul's Church-yard; J. Knapp in Ludgate-street;
T. Longman, in Pater-noster-Row; and S. Birt in Ave-
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